

## COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

## SWEET LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Sum of Interest From all Parts of Sumter and Adjoining Counties.

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Monday when intended for Wednesday's paper and not later than Thursday for Saturday's issue. This, of course, applies only to regular correspondence. In case of items of unusual news value, send in immediately by mail, telephone or telegraph. Such news stories are acceptable up to the hour of going to press. Wednesday's paper is printed Tuesday afternoon and Saturday's paper Friday afternoon.

## BROGDON.

Brogdon, March 14.—The letter received by some Greenville person and published in the daily News and Courier a day or two ago, has also been received here, word for word, also a clipping from some London paper. The \$160,000 offered by the Russian banker who claims to be imprisoned in Madrid, has failed to interest the person to whom the said letter was addressed and no cablegram so far has been sent. The banker who is in prison for manslaughter, claims that the secret pocketbook and unnecessary information to acquire the money would be given as soon as the word "Received" had been cabled.

A few of us who went to Washington for the purpose of seeing the wonderful inauguration, almost wish now we had not seen President Taft or any of his party standing for hours in the snow, and the wind blowing a perfect gale. Some contracted sore throats, coughs and colds. These we brought home with us and judging from our feelings the uncongenial companions are here to stay awhile. However, our trip was not all discomfort.

We have been having considerable rain for several days past. One energetic young farmer fearing that farm work will be stepped on account of too much rain said, "It is too wet now to mix fertilizers and it will soon be too wet to shuck corn."

Fertilizers are still being hauled—about seventy carloads have been carried from this place and still more come each day.

Mr. J. I. Brogdon's sprained foot continues to give him trouble. His many friends sympathize with him.

Mr. W. T. Blackwell of Foreston is spending today with his brother, Mr. A. Blackwell.

We were about to forget to say that our planting is now in progress. Mr. Joel Davis, one of our best farmers is rapidly putting in his crop.

## WISACKY.

Wisacky, March 15.—The indications of Spring are now fast developing. Farmers are well up with their work and are about ready to plant corn, but yesterday's rain has made the ground too wet for plowing.

The health of the community is moderately good at this time.

Miss Edie Thomas of this neighborhood, and Mr. C. P. Campbell of Bishopville, were married last Sunday afternoon at the Baptist parsonage by Rev. J. S. Cason. They will make Bishopville their home.

Mrs. Eva C. Smith, of Bishopville, received a telegram last Monday from Hickory, N. C., to go at once to her sister, Mrs. Shirer, who was extremely ill. Mrs. Smith left on the next train. The physician gave her no encouragement of Mrs. Shirer's condition.

## SALEM.

Salem, March 15.—Mr. T. B. Brunson had a fine mule so badly injured recently that it had to be killed.

The Betts tram road has proven a great convenience to the farmers of this section in having their fertilizers delivered at their doors. One car of 250 bags was unloaded last week with six mules in one half day. The old way from Mayesville, it would have taken the same teams four days to accomplish what was done in one half day.

Supervisor Pitts paid a visit to this section some time ago and succeeded in getting a lot of promises to have the roads worked. But little except promises have materialized except in the Scape O'er section where Mr. W. M. Chandler has had the roads put in first class condition.

Such little things as mumps and measles abound here.

Most every one is ready to plant corn, at any rate the past few rainy days have given ample time to get their seed corn ready.

Mr. D. M. Jones is the accommodating agent, (without compensation) who kindly notifies the patrons of the arrival of their freight, at his station, which is much appreciated by his neighbors and friends.

Some transfers of real estate have been made since the new year set in and much building and improvement generally. On all sides can be seen

new houses built and old ones added to.

Cotton seed for planting purposes seem scarce, but the market has been flooded with seed for sale. The experience of those who have tried the Flora Dora long staple cotton here is entirely satisfactory. It yields as much, or more than the other varieties and commands from \$7.50 to \$8 per bale more with the big decline in price. One farmer made last year, six 420 weight bales on four acres. The cotton is unsold, so the price received cannot be given at present. But it can be seen at a glance that the net profit over the short staple will be at least \$40; or \$10 per acre even at present prices.

## Progressive Summerton.

Summerton, March 15.—Spring is now upon us and the arrival of the 15th of March leads us to watch for evidences of new life, both in the natural and business world. So far as outward appearances are concerned, we can realize the steady approach of our vernal season in the budding vegetation, but today's cold and windy weather, seems rather to be a left-over remnant of what little winter there was this year.

Summerton, like all other towns, has felt the serious effects of the late disastrous panic, and its steady march of progress has been somewhat impeded. Our last year's cotton crop was costly in the making, and being marketed at comparatively low prices has caused some embarrassment to farmers and merchants alike. There are unmistakable signs, however, of returning prosperity, and in the business world the new season is being heralded by a few significant manifestations.

The Summerton Mercantile Company seems to be making some advance over the other business houses in town in preparing its Millinery Department for the coming season. This department will be located in new quarters which appear to be more convenient and commodious than were those used for that purpose last season. Miss Huttall, of Chicago, who will have charge of the Millinery, has already arrived, and will begin immediately to prepare for the spring opening. It is rumored that an Ice Cream parlor will be opened in the old millinery department.

An auction sale of considerable real estate has been announced for March 27th. Mr. L. R. Chewing, now in possession of the Dingle property in town, will offer several lots suitable for residential sites. The lot with the old Dingle house upon it, which is considered among the prettiest locations in town, will be among those for sale.

The Town Council seems to have taken hold of its duties with renewed energy and determination. The good intentions of our new Intendant were manifested on the day of his election when he was going down Main street armed with a new broom. We take this to be a sign of "danger ahead." The Council has recently issued Tax Return Blanks, and within the next few weeks they hope to obtain sufficient funds to make some improvement on Main and other streets.

Dr. D. O. Rhame, the enterprising druggist of our town, has lately installed new gas lights. His store may now be lighted with these and also the Kitson lights. This throws sufficient light on the subject to enable him to successfully perform his duties of Intendant as well as that of druggist.

Mr. Newton H. Bryant of this place died suddenly yesterday morning. He was taken sick the day before, and the immediate cause of his death was heart failure. It is reported that Mr. Bryant was a member of the Woodmen of the World, and was insured for \$1,000 in that lodge. He leaves a wife and several children.

Mrs. A. F. Doty, formerly of Sumter, who has for several weeks been ill with typhoid fever in now on the road to recovery. The departure of Miss Thames who has been in charge of the case, is proof of her steady improvement.

For the past few weeks there has been but little entertainment of a social nature or otherwise, this being probably due to the observance, more or less strict, on the part of some of our good people of the Lenten season. For a time the innocent amusements, such as whist parties, etc., have been put aside; but we would think that even the conscientious observer of Lent might with impunity attend the concert to be given tonight by the "Roney Boys." This company is one of wide repute, and our citizens believe that a rare treat is in store for them. This is the last of the Lyceum attractions for this season, unless the managers can ring in a few "extras." With the splendid stage equipments, Summerton bids fair to procure a series of entertainments next season which will be better than those given during the past six months.

Mr. W. S. Rhame, who for several years has been at work in our town, has gone to Charleston to take a position in Legerton's Book Store.

## TWENTY SAILORS DROWNED.

All But Six of German Steamer Margetha's Crew Lost as Result of Collision.

Rotterdam, March 14.—The Norwegian steamer Maccot collided today with the German ship of Margetha, about 20 miles west of the Maas lightship. The Margetha, 2,000 tons burden, sank almost immediately, 20 of the crew being drowned. The six remaining members of the crew were saved. The Maccot returned here with a big hole in her bow.

## Send Babies to West.

There were sixty-seven of them, and sixty-seven different varieties. They were babies, from 3 years up to 5, all colors, shapes, sizes and previous conditions of servitude.

Little waifs they were, the discard of New York, out in search of a home far from the centers of sorrows and woes that they were born into.

On the way to St. Paul from New York a special car with these babies passed through Milwaukee. With the children there were several sisters of charity and two trained nurses.

The Home Finding Society of New York is sending them West to deal them out into good homes among the farmers near St. Paul.

When the conductor came out of the car there was a suspicion of moisture in his eyes.

"I won't go through there again," he said. "They're all happy, and all that, but it's so pitiful. They all wanted to shake hands with me and caught hold of my hand and looked up at me and smiled as I passed. I suppose they are taught to do it."

"There are all kinds, and they are just as sweet as most babies are. It's a shame that they will never know a real mother and father."

The sisters made the babies beds by placing boards across from seat to seat, for the special car was not a sleeping car. Several babies were piled into one "bed." The one car accommodated the sixty-seven, besides the nurses and sisters.

Long pieces of sheeting were stretched across the tops of the seats to cover the "beds" and keep out the cinders and dust.—Milwaukee Special to New York World.

## On the Suspected List.

One day, after listening to a story particularly offensive with age, Lincoln McConnell, the Georgia evangelist, told this: An old darky went into a store down in Georgia and asked:

"Say, boss, you got any gunpowder heah?"

"Yes, we have gunpowder."

"Lemme see some of that theah gunpowder."

The dealer showed him some.

"Poor a little of that powdah in my hand."

The old darkey took the powder near the light, ran his forefinger around and around in it, looked at it critically, and the smelled it two or three times.

"And you say this heah is powdah?"

"Yes," answered the dealer, sharply: "That is powder. What is the matter with it?"

"Duano, boss"—the darkey shook his head doubtfully—"but hit smells to me like hit's been done shot off bells."

## The Retort Final.

Everybody's Magazine.

The garrulous old lady in the stern of the boat had pestered the guide with her comments and questions ever since they had started. Her meek little husband, who was hunched toad-like in the bow, fished in silence. The old lady had seemingly exhausted every possible point in fish and animal life, woodcraft, and personal history when she suddenly espied one of those curious paths of oily, unbroken water frequently seen on small lakes which are ruffled by a light breeze.

"Oh, guide, guide," she exclaimed, "what makes that funny streak in the water—not there—right over there!"

The guide was busy rebaiting the old gentleman's hook and merely mumbled "U-u-m."

"Guide," repeated the old lady in tones that were not to be denied, "look right over there where I'm pointing and tell me what makes that funny streak in the water."

The guide looked up from his baiting with a sigh.

"That? Oh, that's where the road went across the ice last winter."

There are 60,000 motor cars and automobiles in Great Britain at present.

Sad how the moment two people have fallen in love they begin to fall out about other things.

In disposing of an estate valued at \$2,000 the will of Jennie Linn, of Philadelphia, directs that the deed to her cemetery lot is to be placed in the casket and buried with her.

## WARDENS-FISHERMEN FIGHT.

Four Persons Injured in Fight Near Langley—Warrants Against Officers.

Augusta, Ga., March 14.—Saturday night about 9 o'clock Pink Williams and Charlie Weathersbee, game wardens of the Langley game preserves, Butler Weathersbee, the Langley constable, and a party of fishermen, who were fishing on the preserves without the knowledge and consent of the wardens, got into a fight, which ended with several of the fishing party and one of the wardens' party being shot.

It is said that Pink Williams and Charlie Weathersbee went out to the preserves to see that no fishing was being done. Upon arriving at the pond they found a party fishing with nets. Weathersbee wished to have a witness for the illegal fishing and sent Williams back to Langley to bring another man as witness. While Williams was gone the party of fishermen, it is said, gave Weathersbee only a short time to leave and he left within the given time.

In the meantime Williams, who had been sent back for a witness, returned with Butler Weathersbee, the Langley constable, who is a brother of Charlie Weathersbee, and Will Buck and Colle Watson. Williams, Weathersbee, Buck and Watson went over to the party of fishermen and asked what had become of the other Weathersbees. The party seemed ignorant of the fact that they were constables that had come for their arrest, and told the officers what they had done to Warden Weathersbee. Upon the officers' trying to arrest the party, the fishermen opened fire.

The fight ended when Charlie Weathersbee was wounded in his left arm. Jesse Bush, one of the fishermen, received wounds in both legs below the knee, and a hole through his hand. He made his escape, and it was thought he was dead. Later his hat was found, in which there were 16 holes. He returned to Langley yesterday morning.

Proctor, another fisherman, received a shot in the head. Ripley, also a fisherman, was shot in the head. The fishermen are said to have gone to Langley from Warrentonville. None were seriously hurt.

Later in the day a warrant was sworn out by the fishing party against Williams, Weathersbee and Buck, who were charged with assault. They were arrested and carried to the Alken court house. Dr. W. B. Wright of Langley and Superintendent A. T. Smith of the same place went to Alken and secured their release.

## WILL ABBEVILLE GO DRY.

Interesting Situation in the Only Dispensary County in the Piedmont Section.

Columbia, March 13.—The fight in Abbeville County as to whether or not that county shall go dry or continue its one dispensary is interesting. Abbeville County is now the only county in what is known as the Piedmont section in which there is a dispensary, and a great deal of interest is taken in the situation.

In this connection it is to be noted that the statement is made that a passenger may board a train in New Orleans and go to Richmond via the Seaboard Air Line, and that from the time he leaves New Orleans until he reaches Richmond he is unable to legally get a drink of liquor except at Abbeville.

## COL. SLOAN LEFT NO WILL.

His Eldest Son Applying for Letters of Administration.

Columbia, March 14.—It has frequently been commented upon that lawyers do not prepare their own wills, and that shoe makers wear the worst sort of shoes and so on. Col. John T. Sloan, who recently died on a train while on his way home from Philadelphia, did not leave a will, and his eldest son is now applying for letters of administration.

## GEN. BUTLER HOLDING HIS OWN.

He is Still a Very Sick Man, However, Say His Physicians.

Columbia, March 14.—The friends of Gen. M. C. Butler will be rejoiced to know that he is doing very well, and that the reports are that he is "holding his own." Gen. Butler is, however, a sick man, and suffering as he is a chronic trouble, his family and physicians are particularly careful. Gen. Butler has been here at the infirmary since the first of February, and before that he was confined to his home, and being a man of unusual activity his confinement is not to his liking.

## Bishop Hoss Better.

Baltimore, March 14.—His physicians tonight announced that the condition of Bishop E. E. Hoss, who is a patient at the Johns Hopkins hospital, is better than it has been for several days.

## MONUMENT COMMISSION NAMED.

Governor Ansel Appointed Men to Raise Money for Shaft in Memory Of the Women of the Confederacy.

Columbia, March 12.—Governor Ansel has appointed the following commissioners to take charge of the fund that is to be raised by the people of the State for the monument to the women of the Confederacy. The commission named today is to raise \$7,500, and when this sum is in hand the State is to give \$7,500 out of the treasury.

The commissioners named today are: Col. T. J. Moore, Moore's; Col. J. N. Brown, of Anderson; Gen. C. Irvine Walker, of Charleston; Capt. John G. Richards, of Liberty Hill; Capt. Wm. E. Gonzales, of Columbia.

All the members of the commission were Confederate soldiers or are the sons of Confederate soldiers.

## CAPERS TO KEEP HIS POSITION.

Such is Washington's Opinion—Southern Congressmen Have Urged His Retention as Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Washington, March 12.—While it is generally believed a number of changes will be made in the personnel of high officials in the treasury, the understanding is that no change will be made in the office of federal revenue commissioner now held by John G. Capers, of South Carolina. The Southern members in the house some weeks ago united in a letter to President Taft requesting Capers's retention, saying the commissioner was a representative Southern Republican and that his administration of the office had given satisfaction to the country. Capers was one of the first leading Southern Republicans to espouse Taft's cause last spring.

## FOUL PLAY IN FARMER'S DEATH.

Relatives of Mr. Nat Anderson, Who Died Suddenly Some Weeks Ago Have Body Exhumed.

Greenwood, March 12.—The body of Mr. Nat Anderson, who died several weeks ago, was exhumed yesterday, the stomach taken out and sent to a chemist for examination. Certain developments made the family suspect that the death was not due to natural causes. Mr. Anderson was a well-to-do farmer, living about five miles west of town. He was found dead the Friday night before the very cold weather in February. He had left his house after dinner to go and fix a pasture fence. He did not return and when searchers found him he had been dead several hours. The ground around his body was torn up, indicating that he had died in a great struggle. The night of his death a cat at his house died in a peculiar manner and the next day all the other cats there died very peculiarly. The chemist selected was recommended by Solicitor Sease. His report will be made in a few days.

## SOUTHERN STATES TRUST CO.

Judge D. E. Hydrick Has Dismissed Receivership Proceedings.

Columbia, March 13.—Judge Hydrick in the circuit court yesterday afternoon refused to appoint receivers for the Southern States Trust Company, a receivership having been asked by W. G. Jackson of Chester, one of the holders of bonds in this company. The order of Judge Hydrick was practically upon the ground that the complaint did not allege a sufficient cause of action and that the contract into which the holders of bonds entered was a legal one and must be upheld. In this connection Judge Hydrick remarked that contracts should be upheld by the courts and not dissolved; that if people signed contracts with their eyes shut they should nevertheless be made to abide by their action. As to the contract with the Southern States Trust Company, entered into by Mr. Jackson and others, there was nothing which rendered the contract illegal and the contract itself appeared to be one which could be carried out all right.

## RED SHIRT LEADER HAS PASSED AWAY.

Col. A. J. Sitton Dies at Autun.

Augusta, March 14.—Col. A. J. Sitton died at his home at Autun, near Pendleton, this morning at 4 o'clock, aged 71.

He was one of the original organizers of the Red Shirts and did as much to redeem South Carolina from Radical rule in 1876. He leaves his wife, who was Miss Lella Aull of Newberry county, also a son and daughter and several brothers and sisters and a host of friends to cherish his memory. He was owner of the Pendleton Manufacturing Company at Autun, also the Pendleton Oil Mill at Pendleton. He was a useful member of the Baptist church and a prominent Mason.

He will be buried Tuesday at Pendleton at 2 o'clock.

## INJURED BY MOLTEN STEEL.

Three Fatally and Three Severely Hurt in Explosion at Open Hearth Furnace.

Cleveland, March 12.—Three workmen were fatally injured and three other employees seriously hurt by an explosion at the open hearth furnace of the American Steel & Wire company today.

Water coming in contact with the molten metal caused the explosion and hot metal was thrown on the workmen, severely burning them. The building was damaged.

## DR. J. LEIGHTON WILSON.

Centennial of a Great and Good Man to Be Celebrated at Mt. Zion Church.

The spring meeting of Harmony Presbytery will convene at Mt. Zion Church, April 23 and will be in session for the remainder of the week. The most interesting event of the session will be the celebration of the Centennial of the birth of the great missionary, Rev. J. Leighton Wilson, D. D., who was a native of the Mt. Zion neighborhood, and whose body lies buried here. Dr. Wilson was one of the first and greatest of the missionaries to Africa; the man who did more than any other to destroy the slave trade on the West African coast, a naturalist, who contributed largely to the world's store of knowledge respecting the animal and vegetable life of West Africa, the protector of the author and traveler, Paul Du Chailu, whom he picked up an orphan and a waif on the coast of Africa and educated. Dr. Wilson, although we hear little of him nowadays, was one of the really great and good men of his generation and one of the most distinguished sons of Sumter county. No list of the great men who were born in the year 1809 is complete without the name of J. Leighton Wilson, of South Carolina, who gave his life to the Christianization and civilization of negroes of Africa.

## THOUSAND KILLED IN JAVA.

Three Villages Buried by Landslides at Pandjola—Dogs and Birds Feeding on Bodies.

Victoria, B. C., March 12.—News of landslides burying three villages, involving the loss of 1,000 lives, at Pandjola, Java, was brought today by the steamer Empress of China. A part of Mount Kentjana fell, destroying the village of Tigboeboehan and the towns of Wardengestle and Telebango. But one man, one woman and two children escaped to tell the tale. Tons of earth were slipping as the vessel left. Crowds were flocking to see the terrible sights and recover the bodies, mostly buried deep below tons of earth. Pestilence was feared. Dogs and birds were feeding on the bodies exposed to view.

## Chester Will Have Fine Team.

Chester, March 14.—Prof. B. P. Caldwell, who managed the Chester baseball team last year, was in the city on Thursday evening making some arrangements for the coming season. Prof. Caldwell has lost his star battery, Temple and Hamrick, by draft, the former going to Norfolk and the later to Columbus, but he has secured several other good performers to take their places and feels sure that he will have a better team than last year. Yount, his heavy hitting utility player, who got disgruntled last season and quit the team, will be back this year, and his fine stick work is expected to win many a contest. All of last year's bunch are expected back, but several of them will have to hustle for their jobs as the new men that Caldwell has secured are said to be fine performers.

Chester looks for another good season in the State League, and is going in this time determined to win the rag.

## A True Bill.

Editor Item: I have visited most of the towns and cities in this section of the South and I think that the Daily Item should use all the influence it has to improve your sidewalks. The conditions here are awful during such weather as we have had today, and much worse than other towns of this size.

## A Traveling Man.

Sumter, March 12.

## Burned to Water's Edge.

Queenstown, Md., March 12.—The Chesapeake bay steamboat Love Point, Capt. Clarke, belonging to the Maryland, Delaware & Virginia Railway company, was burned to the water's edge while lying at the wharf at Love Point at 11 o'clock last night. No lives were lost. The origin of the fire is not known.

He isn't much of a baker who eats all the bread he kneads.

The push button doesn't always ring the song of success.